SF Chronicle SEP 1 1975

Oswald Note Threatened FBI Agent

Washington

Lee Harvey Oswald delivered a note threatening an FBI agent a few days before the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, but the visit was never reported and the note was destroyed, the FBI has disclosed.

FBI Director Clarence J. Kelley said in a statement Saturday that "inquiries to date establish that the note contained no reference to President Kennedy or in any way would have forewarned of the subsequent assassination."

The FBI said it learned of the incident as a result of information provided by the Dallas Times Herald, and Kelley said the investigation is continuing.

Kelley said the note was delivered to the FBI office in Dallas by Oswald and was addressed to an agent who had visited Oswald's wife, Marina, as part of an investigation. Details of the note were not clear, but it apparently warned the agent not to attempt further interviews.

"Prior to the current FBI inquiries there had been no information concerning this visit and note recorded in FBI records and inquiries tend to corroborate that shortly after the assassination the note in question was destroyed," Kelley said.

The FBI visit to the Oswald home was described in the Warren Report as part of a routine check on persons who had lived in Communist nations. Oswald and his wife lived in the Soviet Union in the early 1960s.

Oswald was named in that report as the sole assassin of Kennedy, on Nov. 22, 1963.

Oswald was not placed under surveillance after his delivery of the note, according to a copyright story by publisher Tom Johnson in Sunday editions of the Times Herald.

The story said the agent then in charge of the Dallas FBI office, J. Gordon Shanklin, reported he never knew of the Oswald letter. Shanklin, the newspaper said, identified the agent who visited Mrs. Oswald as James P. Hosty Jr., now stationed in Kansas City.

"I am not in a position to say anything on that," the newspaper quoted Hosty as saying.

The newspaper quoted a source as saying, 'I don't believe that (J. Edgar) Hoover or Mr. Shanklin ever knew of the existence of the letter. They would have gone through the roof."

The Times Herald said Mrs. Oswald was contacted on November 1 but she became frightened and the agent left, apparently because of her inability to under-

Back Page Col. 1

From Page 1

stand English well. Oswald was not present.

Another attempt was made to interview her November 5, but was not successful, the newspaper said.

The Times Herald said Kelley's investigation is aimed at possible criminal violations in connection with the destruction of the note and failure to report the visit by Oswald.

Kelley said Attorney General Edward Levi has been kept informed of the progress of the investigation.

Associated Press